

Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Operational Services Division

Plastic Lumber Benches and Tables—Procurement Language

Note: this is a contract excerpt from RFR FAC20.

Product-Specific Language

11. PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

CATEGORY I: PLASTIC LUMBER BENCHES AND TABLES

B. Mandatory Specifications

1. All benches and tables offered by Bidders **must** consist of surface areas (all seating and table tops) which are made with recycled plastic lumber.
3. All plastic lumber **must** contain UV inhibitors and be consistent in color through the entire profile.
4. All plastic lumber for seating and table tops **must** contain a minimum of 90% post-consumer recycled plastic and may be composed of a single resin or co-mingled plastic.
5. All plastic lumber used for seating and table tops **must** not contain any fiberglass or other material which may cause skin irritation or other adverse reactions.
6. If plastic lumber is used for framing/legs, it **must** contain a minimum of 70% post-consumer plastic, and may contain fiberglass or other materials designed to provide additional structural strength.
8. Benches and tables **must** be of sufficient strength for frequent year-round outdoor use in all Commonwealth facilities listed above.
9. All plastic lumber in benches and tables **must** be guaranteed against undue warping, sagging, cracking, splitting, and rotting for a minimum of twenty (20) years under normal use conditions.
10. All metal parts **must** be guaranteed against structural defects for a minimum of 5 years.

Other Applicable EPP Language

1. PURPOSE OF PROCUREMENT

The purpose of this procurement is to establish a statewide contract for eight categories of recycled plastic products, including recycled plastic lumber, recycled recreational and site amenity products, recycled traffic control products, and other recycled plastic products. In some cases recycled rubber products will also be accepted. This contract will be an approved list of contractors who meet the minimum mandatory requirements outlined in this RFR. The Commonwealth is particularly interested in focusing on recycled plastic products for the purpose

of stimulating and strengthening markets for plastic materials collected in recycling programs and encouraging new areas of economic development.

7. DEFINITIONS

“post-consumer content,” as used in this RFR, means materials in a recycled product which are derived from businesses or consumers after having served their intended uses, and which have been separated or diverted from solid waste for the purpose of collection, recycling, and disposition.

“post-industrial materials” refers to materials generated by manufacturers or product converters, such as trimmings, overruns, and obsolete products, that are incorporated back into the manufacturing process of the same or a different product.

“recyclability” is the ability of a product or material to be recovered from or otherwise diverted from the solid waste stream for the purpose of recycling.

“virgin products” are those made with 100% new/raw materials and contain no recycled content.

“recovered materials” are those materials recovered from either industrial or consumer waste streams, including post-industrial, pre-consumer, and post-consumer content.

9. GENERAL CONTRACT SPECIFICATIONS

All Contractors in each category **must** agree to:

- Provide products which meet all specified minimum recycled content requirements; recycled content shall be based on the dry weight of the raw materials, exclusive of any additives such as adhesives, binders, coloring agents, or UV inhibitors.

It is **desirable** that:

- Bidders offer recycling options to collect damaged or out-of-date products and recycle them into new product
- Bidders offer decals, plaques, plates, or other types of products which can be affixed to or imprinted on products sold by the Bidder which identifies products as containing recycled plastic and other relevant information.
- Bidders describe on a separate sheet any environmental efforts being undertaken other than those directly associated with this Contract.